

SYN. NO. _____

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

APRIL 27, 2004

Since the first detection of what is now called HIV/AIDS at UCLA Medical Center in 1981, Los Angeles County has distinguished itself by its commitment to create and sustain service systems critical to the lives and well-being of those with or at risk for HIV disease.

In March 2004, Los Angeles County was informed that its award of funds from Title I of the Ryan White Comprehensive Resources Emergency (CARE) Act would be reduced by more than 8%. This reduction in federal support comes during a year for which the estimated living AIDS cases in our county increased by more than 14%.

Every available indication suggests that the application submitted by Los Angeles County was ranked among the top four in the country, and that there are limited areas for competitive improvement.

The reduction in federal support for critically important services for people living with HIV/AIDS constitutes a serious threat to the health of those with HIV, and could contribute to the further spread of the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
KNABE	_____

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD:

1. Write to Secretary Thompson of the federal Department of Health and Human Services to request an explanation for the reduction in funding to Los Angeles County;
2. Send a letter to the Los Angeles County Congressional delegation urging them to take action to ensure appropriate and responsive federal funding and allocation strategies for HIV/AIDS services in Los Angeles County;
3. Instruct the Department of Health Services to engage fully and vigorously in federal policy discussions regarding federal programs that support services to people with or at risk for HIV disease;
4. Instruct the Department of Health Services to maintain and increase its advocacy efforts in Washington, D.C. and Sacramento, and maintain federal and state advocacy partnerships with HIV/AIDS policy advocacy organizations;
5. Instruct the Chief Administrative Office and the Department of Health Services to develop a strategy for reauthorization of the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act that will ensure adequate appropriations and equitable distribution of resources; and
6. Instruct the Chief Administrative Office and the Department of Health Services to provide the necessary support services for this project.